

Valley STAR



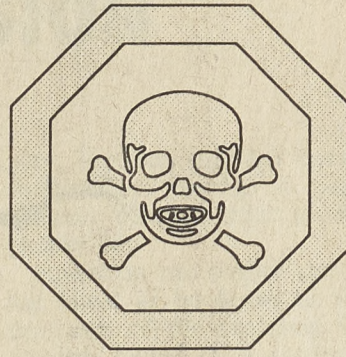
LOS ANGELES
VALLEY COLLEGE
VAN NUYS, CA

Vol.44 No.20

March 19, 1992

Radioactive
Needles

See page 5



Fall
to
4th

See page 6



CARLOS CHAVEZ / Valley Star

ASU Chief Justice resigns after judicial inquiry

By Tamara Christian
Staff writer

Eathan Guler Chief Justice of ASU (associated student union) resigned Tuesday March 17 following a controversial judicial inquiry hearing which was held on March 9th. The hearings soul purpose was a fact finding process on the basics of mishandled student applications for Associate Justice.

The two Associate Justice applicants Erika Abbott and Jacinto Santiago applied for the position in December and January respectively. Upon a two month hiatus neither applicant was contacted nor invited to any of the ASU meetings to introduce themselves or state the position they were applying for. As a result both Abbott and Santiago filed petitions to the ASU court on the basis of discrimination. Abbot claimed she was discriminated because of handicaps, and Santiago claimed his academic rights to participate in campus activities had been violated.

Eight ASU council members were subpoenaed among them Erica L. Hauck ASU President and Dr. Glenn Hisayasu, Dean of Student Affairs. Hauck was unable to attend, however

her comments were latter obtained, "Eathan presented the applications to me, it was his responsibility to invite them to a meeting, he is in charge of the court. I am the chair of the Executive Council, he is the Chair of the Associate Justices, these students were to work for him."

Dr. Hisayasu had even latter comments "there was a major procedure problem with the hearing, although the student government is a learning lab the Judicial power is not able to subpoena faculty members and they did."

Guler comments on the resignation were "officially, I have served three semesters as Chief Justice I was in my fourth term I felt that I've done my duty to the students." "Unofficially but on the record, there was a lot of controversy surrounding this last case I thought it would just be better if I stepped down. "I have no hard feelings for anybody and I have a clear conscious."

There is still no verdict yet regarding the case or any clarification for the two applicants. Dr. Hisayasu has received seven recommendations that were submitted by the court based on the fact finding of the judicial hearing, he will eventually give his reply.



BRIAN PRICE / Valley Star

Annie from Condomania holds up AIDS-resistant dental-dam used by men or women during oral sex during AIDS Awareness Week.

Valley loses budget bid

By Chris Mayda
Editor in chief

In a 5-2 vote, against the wishes of LAVC, the Board of Trustees voted for the \$10 million stabilization plan on Wednesday night and LAVC did not receive what it has been campaigning for in the past months. Vice Chancellor Neil Yoneji had chosen the \$10 million allocation model earlier this week. It is the plan least favoring LAVC.

The budget allocation has become a hot item in the agenda at board meetings. This time Harbor College sent a contingent to speak also. They took on LAVC and its claims for budget augmentation with such statements as - they have 89 percent minorities versus LAVC's 49 percent. The two sides, LAVC and Harbor sat adversarially on opposite sides of the tension filled auditorium. Neither side applauded the others speakers. "It's sad it gotten to this," said Erica Hauck, LAVC ASU president.

In a five year allocation plan the allocation goes from the \$10 million funding level in 1992-93 and reduces gradually to \$5 million in 1995-96. In an amendment, added during the meeting, the \$5 million stabilization pool funding was extended for what could be an indefinite period. LAVC has always pushed to reduce the stabilization as soon as possible and even eliminate it.

The stabilization fund was formed so larger schools in the district would

support the smaller schools. Three schools, Pierce, LACC and LAVC, have historically supported the others.

Yoneji said through Fausto Capobianco, director of public affairs, "The \$10 million model is recommended because it reduces the disruption of moving from one budget allocation mechanism to another. Over the five year period it will allow the smaller colleges to reach a level of operations that enable them to move closer to supporting their operation."

Jack Sterk, faculty president at LAVC, answered the statement, "This is the third budget mechanism in three years. If in fact the first had been followed, we would be in the third year of that mechanism now. The business of community colleges will not be the same in the coming years."

Dr. Mary Lee, LAVC president, said, "I am disappointed that the Chancellor is not recommending the \$5 million stabilization fund." She continued on that LAVC should receive over \$2 million in additional funds if it received funds in relation to the number of students and services LAVC offers. "With a \$10 stabilization fund, City contributes only \$602,000, Pierce College contributes \$608,000 and Valley contributes \$1,567,000. The \$10 million stabilization fund is a step away from equity."

Last week Chancellor Phelps and some members of the board seemed to favor a \$5 million stabilization for 1992-93, but on Wednesday it was different.

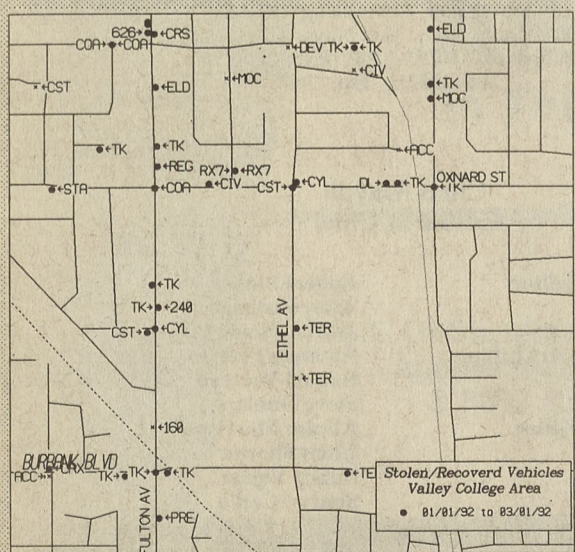
Lost and found

Cars disappear daily near LAVC

AUTOS STOLEN IN AND NEAR LAVC

In an average month more than one car per day, is stolen in the vicinity of LAVC. However, only two have been reported stolen from the school's parking lots since the semester began according to college police.

LOCATION AND IDENTITY OF STOLEN CARS IN LAVC AREA 1/1/92 -3/1/92



FACTS ABOUT STOLEN VEHICLES

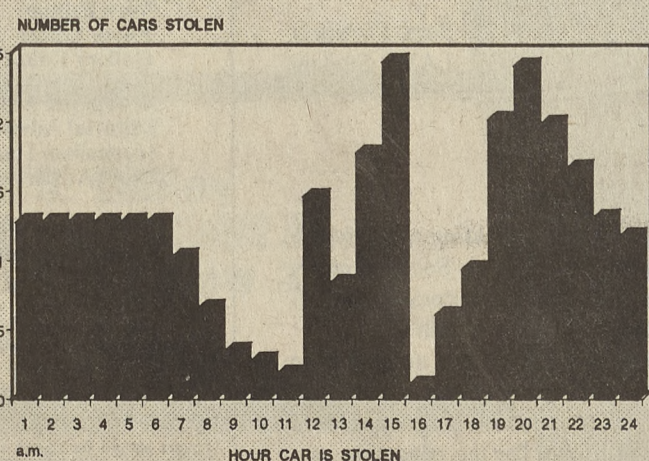
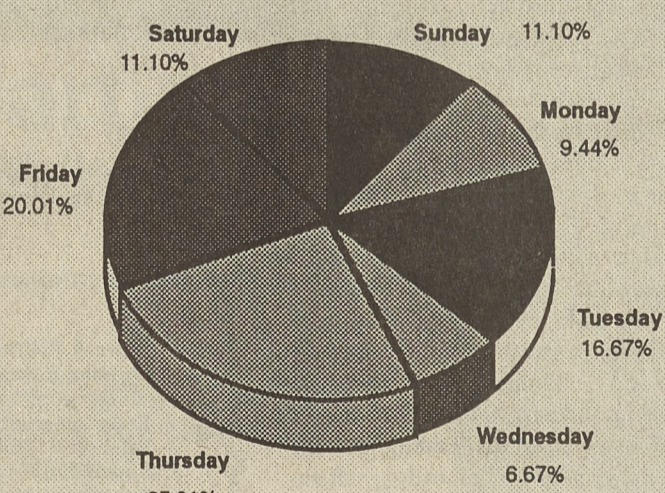
One out of three cars stolen in the vicinity are Toyotas

Buick Regal, Camaro, Cutlass and El Dorado are the choice stolen cars of gangs.

Trucks account for .27% of stolen vehicles

Source: LAPD

PERCENT OF VEHICLES STOLEN EACH WEEKDAY



a.m. HOUR CAR IS STOLEN

Graphics: Chris Mayda

By NANCY VIGRAN
Staff Writer

"This isn't about me, this is about what happens in Los Angeles," claimed Mary Colmey, a photography student at LAVC. On Tuesday, March 3, Mary left her night class at approximately 8:45 p.m. and walked to where she had parked her car on Burbank Boulevard in front of Parking Lot G. But after walking by and then back to where she thought she had left it, she realized that her car was gone.

Shaking, she returned to her class and told her instructor and a few remaining students that her car was missing. Robert Crosby, photography instructor, phoned the LAVC Campus Police and was given the numbers of a towing service and the Van Nuys Division of the LAPD. After learning that her car was not towed, Mary phoned the LAPD to report her vehicle as stolen.

Mary isn't alone. There is more than one occurrence daily of Grand Theft Auto (GTA) in the immediate Valley College area—64 total in the months of January and February. However, according to Captain Karl Taber of the LAVC Campus Police, there have only been two GTA's since the beginning of the spring semester (Feb. 3) from campus parking lots. Any occurrences off campus, from the street, are not recorded on Campus Police records.

Far and away the most common vehicles being stolen in Van Nuys are pick-up trucks of all makes, indicated Officer Andrew Malkhasin of the Crime Analysis Detail, Van Nuys Division of the LAPD. The

most common make of car stolen is the Toyota, including Toyota trucks, Celicas (which Mary owns) and Corollas.

"These stolen vehicles are used mainly for transportation and are usually only lightly stripped before being dumped," said Malkhasin. Often one stolen vehicle will be recovered where another is taken. It takes less than two minutes for a car to be broken into and driven away. Often cars are taken by juveniles and 99 percent of the time by males.

"Many car thieves have shaved keys, made to allow entrance into many different types of vehicles," said Captain Taber. "Silencers can be used when glass breakage is necessary for entrance," said Malkhasin. Malkhasin explained various methods used for access in starting cars including punching ignitions and in GMAC cars, drilling small holes in the steering column just large enough for a pinky finger to get in and shift rods releasing the steering wheel and starting the ignition.

So how can potential victims protect their cars? Apparently there is no clear-cut way; however there are many deterrents. According to Malkhasin, steering wheel "Clubs" are good, but they still don't totally prevent theft because steering wheels can be cut to allow for "Club" removal and some steering wheels can easily be removed and replaced. Captain Taber suggests that if you cannot afford an alarm system, a decal indicating that you have an alarm system can also discourage thieves.

Perhaps the best possible prevention, said Malkhasin, is what is

known as an Ignition Kill Switch or Starter Interrupt. According to mechanics, this switch should be placed in an inconspicuous place in your vehicle and when off, will disconnect the power supply to the starter. Usually, although they have already broken in to your car, a thief will not spend a great deal of time looking for this switch to actually start the car when it won't crank over. These switches can be placed under the dash or, better yet, under the floor mat. Cost is minimal for the switch, running only about \$10 in parts and approximately one hour of a mechanic's time.

The recovery rate for vehicles taken from the Van Nuys area is good, running about 80 percent over the last two to three months. Usually the vehicles are found not too far from where they have been taken. For these cars, recovery time is about two to three weeks.

In reference to vehicles being stolen around Valley College, Malkhasin said, "People who think that their car is not good enough; think again!" Cars being taken from the area surrounding the campus are not usually taken for status, but simply from a transportation or joyride point of view. If you are a victim of a GTA or if you see any suspicious looking person in one of the parking lots, notify the LAVC Campus Police immediately. The Campus Police can be reached from any pay phone on campus by dialing the "# sign followed by 30 at no cost. All GTA's should be reported to the LAPD immediately at (818) 989-8343. The more quickly reported, the more likely a car will be recovered. To date, Mary's car has not yet been found.

Financial aid quotations corrected

Dear Editor:

This letter is in response to the article "Financial Aid can be a hindrance." I am most concerned about the misinformation and the misquotes attributed to me which appear in your article.

The purpose of the interview was to "get the word out" regarding Cal Grants and the Cal Grant deadline of March 2. The intent of the article, which was to be run the last week in February in time for the deadline, was to urge students to apply.

My first concern is with the misinformation and misquotes which appeared in the article regarding application deadlines.

Your article quotes me as stating that students may apply after deadlines. This is not correct nor does it reflect the information given in the interview. Students interested in applying for Cal Grants for 92-93 had to apply by March 2.

Students cannot apply for Cal Grants after that date, however, students may and should apply for federal aid programs such as Pell Grant, Campus Based Aid and Stafford Loans after March 2.

Students must meet both State and Federal deadlines, respectively, when they apply for State and/or Federal aid. Information and assistance for students is available in

the Financial Aid Office.

Secondly, the quote regarding stereotypical statements attributed to me was totally erroneous. I did not make that statement.

You can imagine my astonishment when I read the article and saw that your reporter's questions to me appeared in print as my quotation. My response to her statements, however, which was that financial aid is a "...very fair process based strictly on need and availability of funds, for students who meet the eligibility criteria." did not appear in the article.

I think that it needs to be reiterated that the financial aid process has no racial, religious, gender, contrary is simply untrue.

Although I can appreciate the authors attempt to dispel some myths regarding financial aid recipients, the way the article was worded and the incorrect placement of quotation marks gave it a different connotation in addition to the inaccuracies.

I would very much appreciate a retraction of the quotes incorrectly attributed to me and a correction application deadlines.

Ruth Siegel
Financial Aid Manager

LAVC vs. lumbering beast

Dear Editor:

I have curiously read your series of articles regarding district funding and Valley's historical lack thereof.

Between the efforts of the ASU, the faculty and administration and the Star, a valiant and heroic struggle has come to the forefront and you should be congratulated.

It is obvious that the LACCD, or at least most of it, especially Chancellor Phelps, cares little about Valley College. With so much potential, the place is falling apart at the seams.

If Valley is generating enough funds to support other colleges, then it is completely capable of taking care of itself. It is now time to seriously consider an investigation of Valley's secession from the district. Most California community colleges are in one campus district and many are much smaller than

Valley.

With local control, Valley's needs could be dealt with much more efficiently and expeditiously. By agreement with other schools (districts) students could choose which college to attend and no one would be shut out of attending Valley due to a break-up of the LACCD.

It sounds like an extreme step, but why not look at it. Of course, downtown district bureaucrats would oppose it for fear of losing their well paying jobs, but maybe the good ones would be offered jobs at Valley! It would require a vote of the people, but most of us are for more efficient government these days. The district is a lumbering beast that needs to be put to rest.

What was good for the Soviet Union may be good for the LACCD. Valley, to preserve itself, should take the first step.

Michael Higby
Theater Arts

The AIDS survey results in the March 12 issue of the Valley Star were tallied by Andy Fishman and Michael Luciano. A total of 400 questionnaires were tabulated.

Good girls are feminists

Dear Editor:

I am appalled at your editorial in the February 13 issue of the *Valley Star* not because we differ in our opinions, but because you presumed to speak for all women and you didn't do your homework!

Feminism's goal was not "to make good girls bad." Good girls are feminists. Feminism's goal was and is to secure for women political, economic and social rights equal to those of men.

Feminism consists of both women and men. Feminism does not want to "shoot down men." Feminists do not all grow up "to be spinsters—they make choices. Feminists do marry, do become mothers, are professionals, are students, are writers, are painters, do write prose, and are in all walks of life.

Children are taught the "f" words...remember: freedom, fun, fairness, famous, father, food, finance, friend, and yes, feminism.

It is sad that you do not recognize or give credit to the fact that 20 years ago if it was not for the work of feminists, more than likely you would not have been appointed Editor-in-Chief because of your gender.

I would imagine that even the "everyday women" wants the ability to be able to obtain a credit card in her own name, if she chooses, wants equal rights in purchasing a car and medical insurance, wants the ability to choose the career of her dreams—whatever it is—and does not want to be sexually harassed.

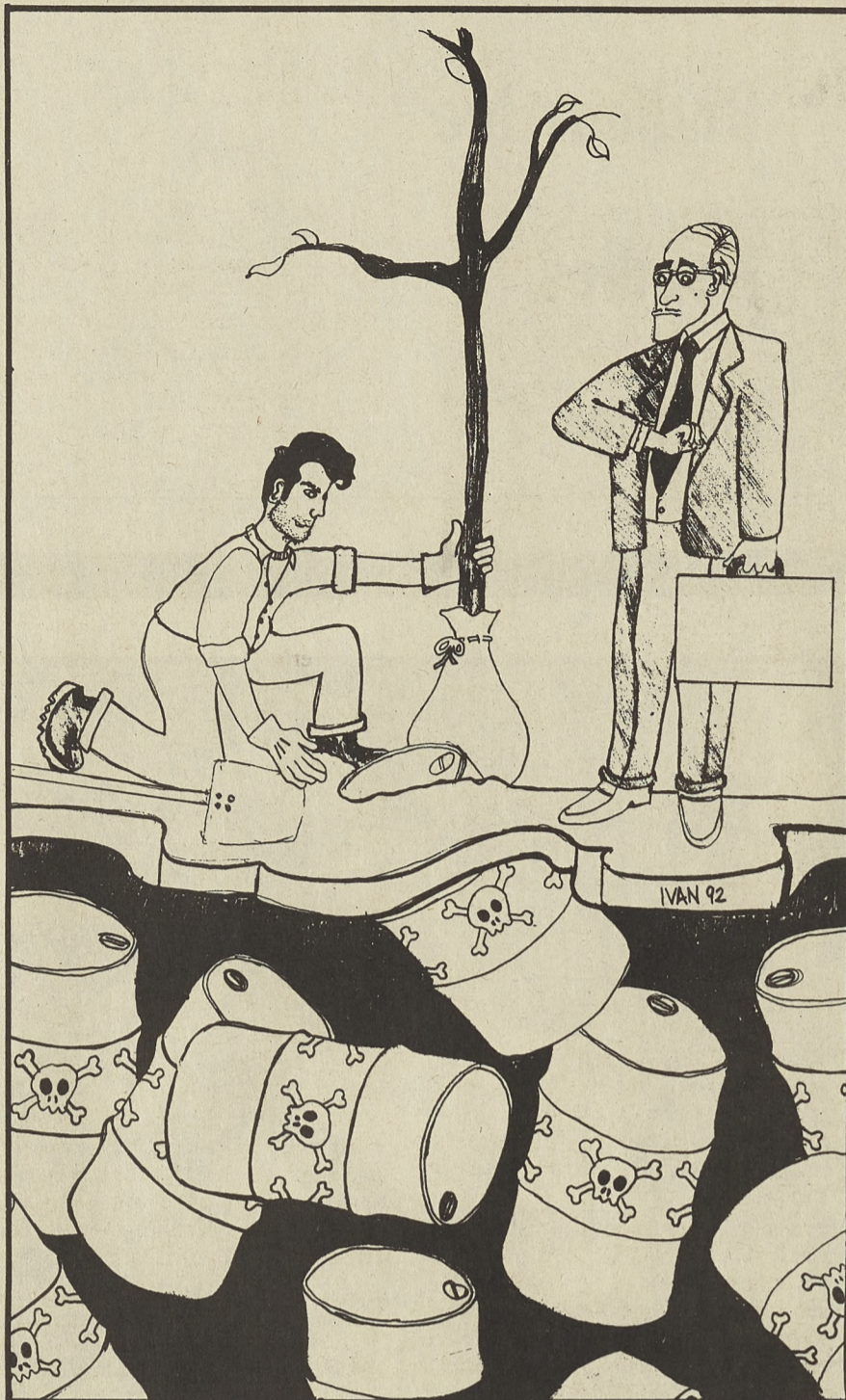
I would even bet that she wants the choice to be able to be able to have her man open the car door for her or if he is too slow, to feel comfortable enough to open it for herself.

And not to shock you, but feminists do shave their legs and they do wear make up.

And feminists would very much like to be equally represented in the States and in Washington, D. C.

And I do believe that Men of quality are not threatened by Women for Equality.

Constance Bufalini



Digging beneath the surface

Letters to the editor

DRUGS: Monsters that feed on demand

"We discovered the side of drugs that they didn't want us to find; a positive side," said Joe Punongbayan on his Feb. 27 "Star" article.

His story showed sensitivity and pain over a friend's senseless death to drugs. His message was dire.

"...people associate drugs with its negative side...drugs can be very harmful, but a different aspect does exist," he said. Certain illegal drugs have medical value. But not as raw material. They need to be chemically processed, combined with other substances and taken on controlled dosage. Some respiratory system and vision condition medications use marijuana. Cocaine is the base of various local anesthetics. Yet, with all due process patients have allergic reactions and side effects. Inside a medical laboratory drugs are synonyms of hope and life; in the back alleys, school yards and ghettos they spell violence, corruption and death.

"With the aid of (drugs) in a controlled atmosphere, we were able to attain a new perspective on life, our role, and what we valued. It allowed us to throw out all inhibitions," Punongbayan continued. I won't argue what he attained.

Regarding "A Killer Education"

Regarding "A Killer Education," while you are right to question the priorities of the state's budget, blaming Robert Alton Harris or any other prisoner for the excesses of the criminal justice "industry" is misguided. Like the two rats in the psychology experiment, when the scientist stops delivering the food as they press the lever—the rats attack each other in frustration.

Our budget problems are not about any one group's excessive spending—it's about taxes. Period. Taxes that are too low on some groups and too high on others. From 1982-1988, the net

He has taken drugs. I haven't. And I'm not alone. What I do know is that he and his pot posse were lucky. Lucky that no one went berserk in the "controlled atmosphere" and hurt the others, or instead of "throwing out all inhibitions" threw him or herself out the window following a "new perspective of life."

The daily drug related news reports are nauseating. One can almost smell the blood and hear the bones of the victims being crushed when another rape or robbery happens, when another innocent bystander is hurt all caused by a drugged out criminal. Have any of you read about any scientific discovery, technical invention or any significant contribution to human kind made by someone on drugs? I doubt it.

He continued, "It is different for each person. There are so many factors including your state of mind and what you expect the drug to accomplish...Like anything, everyone is capable of this..." Way to make a difference, Joe! Is that the answer to your child on the question of drugs? Very unlikely. The only intelligent way to handle drugs is to fight them.

worth of the top 1/2% of Americans QUADRUPLED. Yet real wages fell. Moreover, the top five percent of Americans received an effective 50% cut in income and property taxes in '82-'88, while the average wage earner pays more payroll taxes than ever before. Furthermore, income and wealth are now mal-distributed by age group. Poverty has virtually disappeared among Americans over 65, yet a quarter of those 25 and under live in poverty. And while those 65 and older hold 60% of the country's wealth, younger workers must pay higher and

higher FICA withholding taxes which are paid out directly via Social Security payments. How much does Social Security pay you each month?

The facts are cold but simple: the older, upper-middle class, predominantly white home-owning voter, does not want to pay for the education of a young, racially mixed population. Period. Get used to it because it's not going to change until young people think more about voting than they do about fashion, sports, and partying. Period.

Sary Fornaris
LAVC Student

D.P. Jones
Continuing Student

Honors program secure

Dear Editor,

On Friday, March 6, more than 40 Los Angeles Valley Students spent an informative day at UCLA. They met with UCLA faculty and counselors, as well as with former Valley students. Many of these students, who plan to transfer to UCLA within the next two years, are part of Valley's Transfer Alliance Program. All learned a lot about what would help them to succeed at UCLA after transfer.

These students were concerned about an article in the previous day's (Thursday) Valley Star. The piece's title indicated that the transfer program is "jeopardized." The article (by Chris Mayda) concerned the Faculty Senate Meeting of February 26.

The content of the article and the results of the Senate meeting, itself, contradict the article's heading.

The Faculty Senate voted to continue our transfer program. Originally called the Honors Program, it has been renamed The Transfer Alliance Program to better reflect the function of the program today. Valley College currently has alliances with UCLA, USC, UCSC and (proposed) Pepperdine University.

The Faculty Senate also sent to committee a plan to set up a 4-semester sequence of courses, including evening classes. The plan would expand the Transfer Alliance Programs including new ways of offering courses—contracts and other means—to insure that all disciplines are represented courses with low enrollments can be offered. Course offering and addition of contract courses will afford students enriched academic experience which will

prepare students for successful transfer.

For Fall 1992 more than 8000 students have applied for transfer to UCLA. According to Veda Veach, Director of Undergraduate Admissions. Of these about 3,000 will be admitted with 1,800-2,000 expected to attend UCLA, mostly from community colleges such as Valley. Competition for these diminishing slots is growing.

For many majors, in Social Sciences such as Economics, a G.P.A. of 3.5 is seen as a minimum requirement.

The UC system is already crowded with huge classes. There have been calls for their faculty to increase the number of classes taught per year. It is unlikely this will occur. If it does not, according to a student by UC chief David Gardner last week, the probable option will be to redirect more students to the community colleges.

The value of the Transfer Alliance Program is clear. Last year 100 percent of qualified Transfer Alliance Program students were admitted to UCLA versus only 50 percent of non-TAP applicants. Once transferred TAP students have been found to have performed better with greater retention, higher G.P.A. after transfer, fewer with a low G.P.A.

If students would like information on the Transfer Alliance Program they could call me at x216. Students who had a 3.0 G.P.A. in high school or have maintained a 3.0 in more than 20 units and are eligible for English 101 are able to participate.

Dr. Joseph Frantz
Biological Science

Liberal views call girl

Dear Editor:

As a part time, middle age, male student of LAVC, and someone who has always thought of himself as a liberal thinking person, I must say that I was somewhat astonished to see Raquel Vaccaro's interview with a call girl, published in the February 13 edition of the *Valley Star*.

It was not the content of the interview that stirred my feelings, for it revealed no surprises, and I'm liberal enough to acknowledge the unfortunate need that allows a justified reason for the services that women such as Amy (the call girl) perform.

However, with all due respect for freedom of the press, my gut reaction was that the *Valley Star*, or any other campus publication, was not the appropriate place for such an article.

Ms. Vaccaro's closing remarks encouraging readers to accept the interview subject for who she is and not by what she does, I believe sends a message that is offensively inconsistent with what I assume every young, and not so young, woman is

trying to accomplish here at LAVC.

I would expect that endeavor to further develop their minds and acquire more formal education in order that they may prepare themselves for the pursuit of a more meaningful and respectful career path. If that be so, then Ms. Vaccaro's remarks are an insult to that endeavor.

Also, I would like to know where it has ever been said that if a prostitute doesn't book her Johns through a pimp or solicit them on the street that she can then qualify as respectable and high class.

Mafia hit men are also high class in the realm of what they do. They are also paid very well and perform their services very efficiently, just as Amy. Will that be next to merit a quarter page of space in the *Valley Star* as an alternate career option?

Give me a break!

Daniel E. Keough
Humanities Major

Valley STAR

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Letters

The Valley Star is happy to receive and, if possible, publish letters from its readers. The Star reserves the right to condense all letters for space considerations. Submitted letters should be limited to 350 words.

Letters are subject to editing if they are obscene libelous, or make racial, ethnic, religious, sexist, or sexually oriented denigrations.

Letters should be signed and, if applicable, include student's major and ID number. Letters may be presented to the Valley Star office, Bungalow 25, by Monday morning for the following Thursday.

The college newspaper is published as a learning experience, offered under the college journalism instructional program.

Under appropriate state and federal court decisions, these materials are free from prior restraint by virtue of the First Amendment to the United States Constitution.

The Editorial and advertising materials published herein, including any opinions expressed, should not be interpreted as the position of the Los Angeles Community College District, the college, or any officer or employee thereof.

Lou Gehrig: a prized possession

By FRAN EBELING
Staff Writer

"Lou Gehrig did not die of cancer—he died of a broken heart." These poignant words written by playwright Jason Miller, for his one-act play "Lou Gehrig Did Not Die of Cancer" initially drew baseball fan, and student director, David List to Miller's riveting play. It is in understanding the innocence of a man's fond memories of lost glory that we grasp the feeling of discontent felt by the characters in this three-character play. Each searching to find themselves and attain a sense of dignity lost somewhere down the line.

The play is due to open this Friday and Saturday evenings, March 20-21, at LAVC's Shoe-Box Theater.

This highly professional depiction of middle class life and individual frustration in a New York suburb digs deep into its characters' souls and evolves as a production worthy of merit and praise. List should be proud of his resounding entrance into the directing arena. The environment he creates both as a director and stage manager spins us into the realm of discontent which is at the heart of this studied production.

At Friday's dress rehearsal, the darkened set came to life amidst the glow of filtered lights. The suburban living room of Victor Spinilli, in its overdone splendor, revealed a different mood altogether. A chaotic and dysfunctional home where two lives run parallel, however, each one driven by uniquely different goals.

As the play opens, blonde and voluptuous Barbara Spinilli, played by actress Chausey Leebron, sits rigidly on the edge of the couch. She is rehearsing lines out loud from Hedda Gabler, a play she will star in later the same evening at the local community theater.

Barbara's concentration is broken as the ringing of the telephone breaks her quiet tranquility. A discontent further deepened by the



CORKY HIGGINS/Valley Star

Voluptuous Chausey Leebron argues with Shawney Anderson in Lou Gehrig play.

absence of unpredictable husband Victor Spinilli.

Victor as played by actor Shawney Anderson is manager of a little league baseball team sponsored by his father's Spaghetti company.

The team is in last place. If that wasn't bad enough, he has just punched an umpire in the mouth. The umpire is threatening to sue. Barbara's discontent is etched in the furor of her brow.

Mrs. Martin knocks on the door. Martin is played by English actress Linda Porter and enters the fray with some misgivings.

A naturally shy woman, she possesses a taste and sensitivity that give her a quiet grace in contrast to Barbara's controlled but ever-present hysteria. Martin is awkwardly apologetic about barging in unannounced.

Her son Jeffrey is on Victor's little league team. Barbara is slightly taken aback by Martin's quiet nature. The stage fathers she usually encounters have always been aggressive vampire types.

It is during their conversation that

we grasp the inherent differences between these two women who see Victor Spinilli through completely different eyes. One as a heroic man standing up for what he believes in, the other ashamed of the negative example he sets for the boys that he coaches.

Martin exits vowing to return. Enter Victor Spinilli. Victor is 32. He is a sad little clown underneath his coarse and sometimes volatile temperament. A jock-type with machismo instincts. A man filled with frustrations and questions. Victor turns a deaf ear to Barbara's nagging whine of discontent. He drowns his own frustrations in drink after drink to escape the continuous barrage of complaints about his personal habits and her relentless jabs at his lack of intellect and success.

Chausey Leebron as Barbara paints a portrait of a creative soul trapped in a suffocating prison she is forced to contend with as Victor's lonely wife. She will fulfill her dreams at any cost. Leebron has poise and talent.

Victor decides not to attend the

play. He feels that her friends are shallow and boring. A pervading distance between them grows even greater here.

Anderson has strong and emerging talent as he draws us into his portrayal of the brooding Spinilli; seeking solace in a recording by Opera star Caruso and a glass of whiskey. The phone rings again. A painful moment where he learns of his firing from the team.

Mrs. Martin returns now, finding Victor at his wits' end, drunk but holding his liquor well.

Porter's depth as an actress and unique understanding of the prim and proper character she portrays draws us through a weave of her character's troubled life. It would appear that destiny has brought these two souls longing for love and understanding together for purposes clearly sketched by playwright Miller.

In the end Victor opens his heart to Marti, finally giving her his prize possession, a baseball autographed by Lou Gehrig. His father had given it to him when he was a boy, now it is time to pass it on to her son Jeffrey.

As the light gently grows dimmer these two figures brighten with life and vibrancy. The message here is obvious. Our voices grow stronger and gain true meaning if the ears listening walk to the same drummer.



VLADAN HOLEC/Valley Star

Cellist Andrew Cook and pianist Shari Raynor perform in classical recital in Music Hall.

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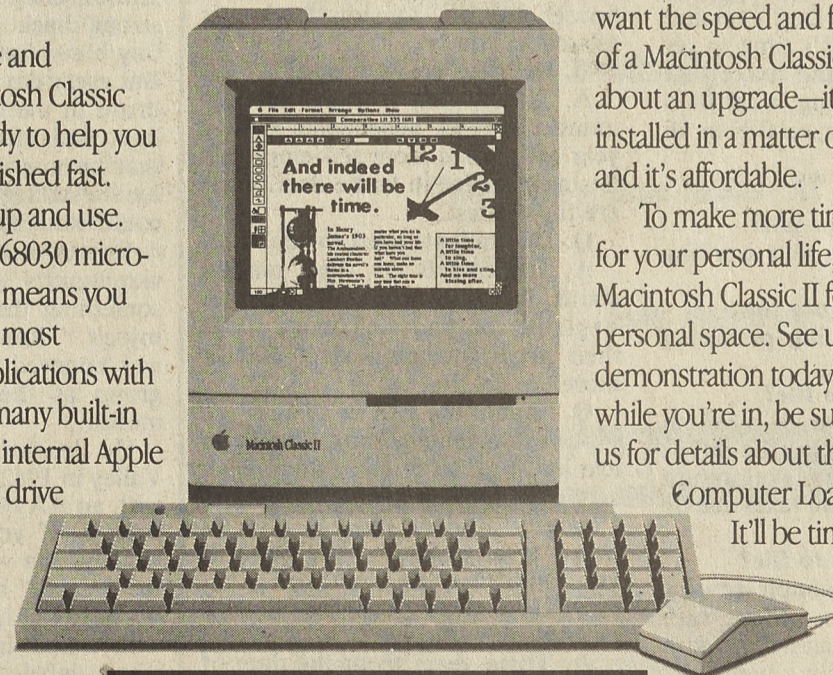
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SHARVY CADIA / Valley Star

Purim Festival

Andria Cauchi doing swirl painting at the Purim Festival. The Valley Jewish Community Center held its annual festival last Sunday. Purim is known as the feast of lots as ancient ruler Haman tried to cast lots on the Jewish people by executing them.

Toxic...

Continued from page 5

We need to go to the root of the problem and consider why our leaders insist on pursuing such paths as the easiest way out (building a toxic waste dump where it's cheapest, even if the site is surrounded by drinking water), and military development over social development (creating enemies such as Saddam Hussein and Manuel Noriega in order to have someone to attack so that our war-time economy won't collapse). Could it be that some people could make a profit from nuclear development and that the state government has their interests in mind?

One can get angry or one can get mad. "Nobody knows how much radioactive waste is produced," says Meddick, "only how much is dumped." "You can't isolate nuclear waste. It's

time to call an end to the experiment and close Pandora's Box."

We, as a nation, must begin thinking about alternative energy sources. Nuclear power was first touted as the cleanest, safest and cheapest form of energy, but it is not any of those things; in fact, it's one of the most expensive forms of energy, and certainly one of the most dangerous. Since nuclear power is producing most of this waste, we'd better reconsider how valuable this energy is to us. Why not more fully explore the possibilities of wind and solar power? Why doesn't the government encourage the private sector to develop these ideas? Most likely there is not as much potential profit, so capitalists don't get very excited. As William Pratcher himself stated, "We're in this business to make money."

One might think it valuable to communicate with our leaders on this sub-

ject. This isn't as easy as it sounds. Asked how she thinks Gov. Wilson believes California could possibly profit from a toxic waste dump in such less than ideal circumstances, Meddick responds, "I don't know. He won't talk to us."

In fact, Governor Wilson has come out with no official statement about the proposed dump; he refuses to meet with concerned citizens' groups. His aides say he is, "too busy." Democracy in action.

Even more appalling is the behavior of Don Womeldorf, head of the Department of Health Services. At a public meeting in Needles, replying to questions about the prudence of the proposed dump, he said, "Needles' concerns are garbage." One must remember, this is not just the problem of a small, remote town. Once the radioactive material gets into the water which surrounds the site, it is our problem as well; it is our water.

If this, and the whole situation disturbs you in the least, I urge you to write to Wilson, Womeldorf and the others at the addresses included here. Ask them about their definition of acceptable behavior as our representatives. Tell them how you feel about their inexcusable disregard for your health and the future of Southern California.

Governor Pete Wilson State Capitol Sacramento, CA 95814

Don Womeldorf Department of Health Services 714 P Street, Room 616 Sacramento, CA 95814 (916) 323-3019

State Assemblyman Byron Sher Room 2136 State Capitol Sacramento, CA 95814 (916) 445-7632

Gary Morris Region 7 Water Quality Board 73-271 Hwy. 111 Suite 21 Palm Desert, CA 92260 (619) 346-7491

Budget cuts kill vocational education

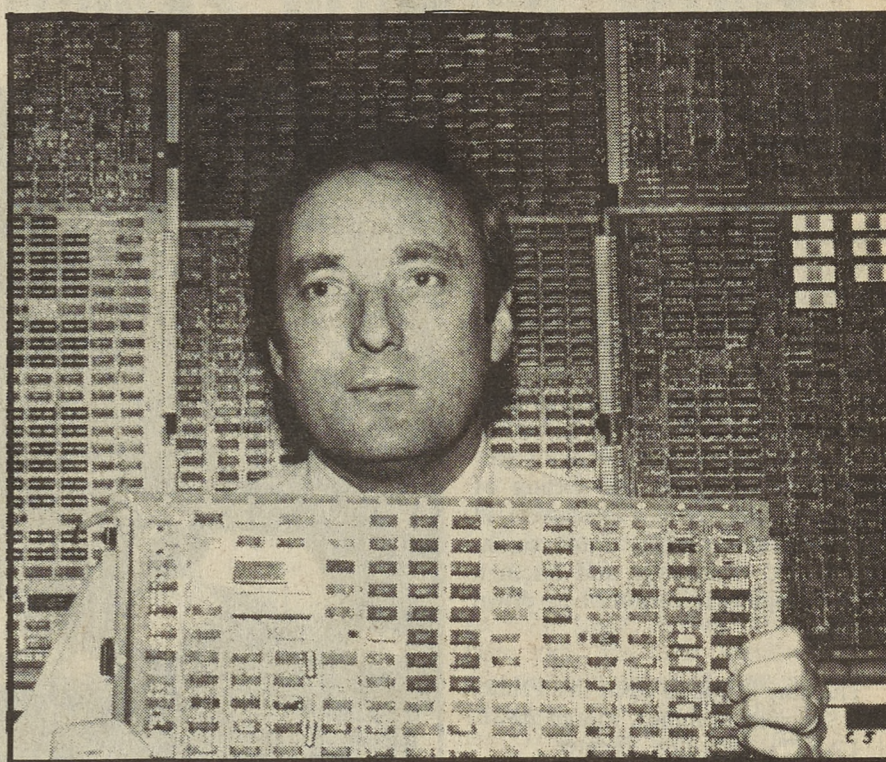
By CATHERINE GUNN
Staff Writer

Thomas Oliver isn't vying to be Valley's best dressed professor; he wears a tie because he must do a businessman's lunch to ensure the survival of his department. "Budget cuts have killed vocational education," said Oliver, professor of electronics and chairman of the electronics, physics and oceanography department.

The equipment donations wrought by his negotiations with electronics companies refute this lament. It is impossible to run the program with the funding given by the college. "We work with industry," said Oliver. "It is the only way to run the program."

Oliver trains trouble-shooters in computer repair, robotics and consumer electronics, which includes repairing VCRs. He was brought in five years ago from Pierce to generate relations with industry, and it's a good thing his connections paid off, otherwise he would have to teach repairs on imaginary equipment. "The industries show us what equipment and curriculum changes are necessary and we discuss goals," said Oliver. The students are up-to-date on local employers' needs. "They will hire these people." Oliver pays for the lunches out of his own pocket and sees two companies every week from his core of 75 to 100 companies, medium-sized outfits who usually employ about 100 people.

An advisory committee, composed of 25 companies, meets yearly to advise Oliver on current equipment. Oliver insists that all companies in the advisory committee help LAVC. "The key is hiring." Oliver in turn must keep technical skills at a pace with industry demands. "My job is to place students," he said, claiming 700 references.



MICHAEL OEHLER / Valley Star

"Who says computers have no soul?" Thomas Oliver, chair of the electronics, physics and oceanography departments, seems lost in an array of circuitry.

The department recently received \$80,000 in used and donated equipment. "To us it is state of the art," he said. He receives his "care packages" when a company closes its inventory account and has parts it no longer needs. Boxes of catalogs line the supply room after 100 sets were donated from a company in Glendale.

Though the manuals are discards, Oliver said it's what people are designing with and will help his one-to-two year training course for VCR trouble shooters. He also received two laser printers.

Oliver's beef is not with Valley's administration, but with the district. Sam Mayo, acting dean of academic affairs at Valley, has been supportive in developing the bio-med pro-

gram and joined Oliver in 7 a.m. meetings. Dr. Mary Lee, president of Valley College, is voc-oriented; "Without her support you'd die." Echoing the sentiments of many on this campus, Oliver maintains the nine-college district funding pie was not cut proportionally. "We get one third of what trade-tech gets with as many students."

On top of his 15-hour class schedule, the 15 hours he spends dealing with business weekly, Oliver reads 40 publications per month. Oliver has seen the cut of 20 percent of classes in five years and no replacement of retired teachers. Still, he does the arduous job of producing students can compete in know their field. "I can't live with myself if my students aren't getting proficiency," said Oliver.

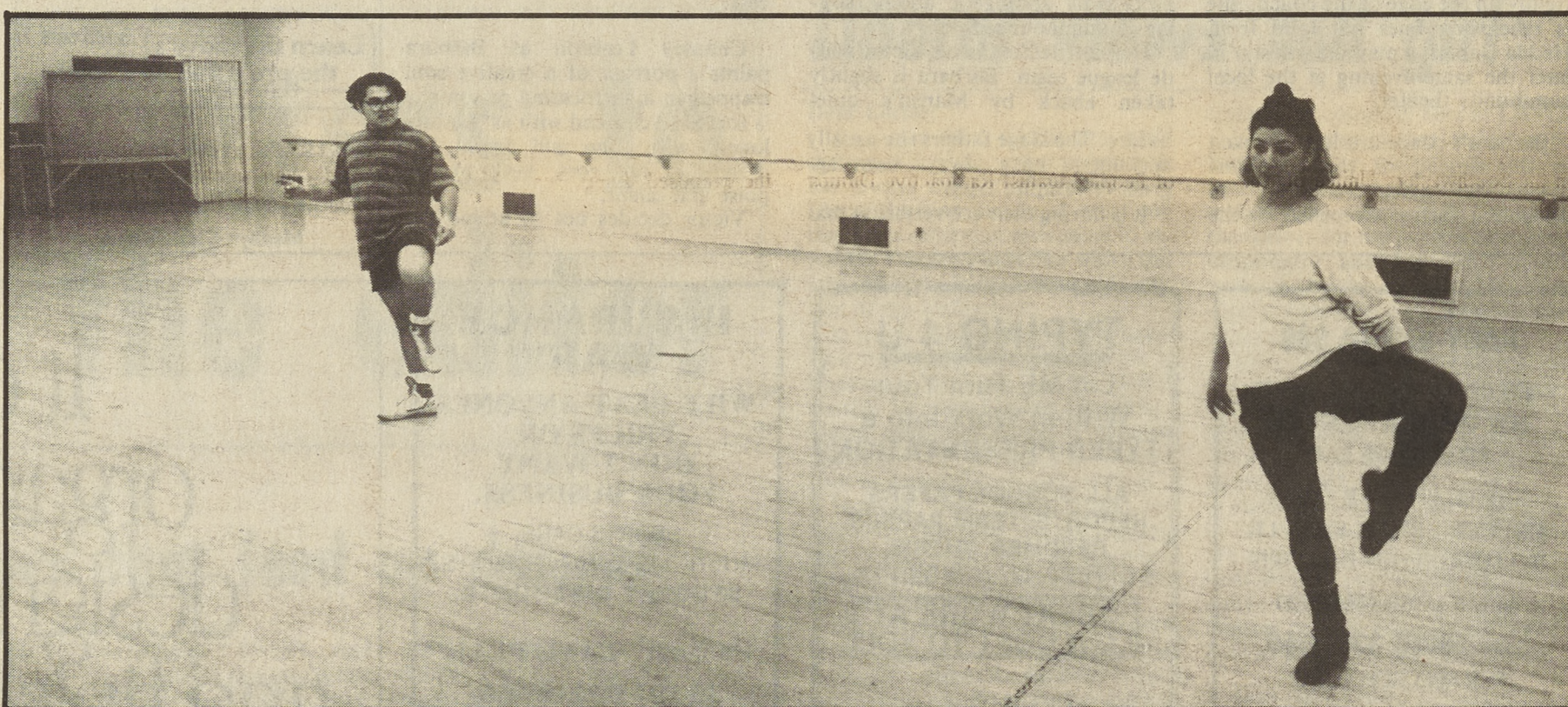
Audition for Spring Dance Concert:

Student choreographer Julian Oscar auditions student dancer Kim Chriqui, showing her steps for Donna Summer's song **Last Dance**.

A former UCLA student who came back to Valley College because "money is tight and tuition alone is twenty times higher at UCLA than at Valley," Oscar was not a bit discouraged by the fact that no one else showed for the audition. "Time is short so I have to rely on a couple of friends to join me and Kim for the dance," he said.

Chriqui studies tap dancing at Valley and is pursuing Jazz dancing outside the school. This fall she will be Dance Major at UC Irvine.

-compiled by Vladan Holec



VLADAN HOLEC / Valley Star

Raquel listens to....a CPA

By Raquel Vaccaro
Interview Editor

Oh my, what time is it? Oh no, it's tax time already! Don't remind me. Not again, well it's time to get my papers together and make that call. Enter Peggy Boling, a certified Public Accountant specializing in taxes for 14 years.

Q. Best part of your job?

A. Meeting people and working with a lot of men.

Q. Worst part of your job?

A. Long hours, billing/procuring payment from clients.

Q. The best time to file?

A. If you're going to get a refund and have a simple return, file early. To avoid an audit, extend your return until Oct. 15, but pay all taxes due by April 15.

Q. The Worst time to file?

A. If you have a simple return, there is no worst time. Make sure you file on a timely basis. For more complex returns or with a high risk, do not file before April 15.

Q. Your most outrageous deduction?

A. A client raises birds and deducts a subscription to the L.A. Times as supplies to line the bottom of the cage. To date, her return has not been audited.

Q. A good book to answer your tax questions?

A. J.K. Lasser has a popular tax book out on the market.

Q. What is considered a dependent?

A. Yourself, a member of your household or someone who is related to you.

Q. Red flag areas, please!

A. Not having a social security number for all dependents over a year old, losses from self-employed business, office in home deductions are the reddest.

Q. Do students need to file?

A. It depends on their marital status, age and gross income. A single person under 65, must file if their gross income was \$5,500 or more.

Q. Should the IRS be feared?

A. Yes Raquel! Don't think you are going to get away with something. They are "usually" understanding if you make arrangements with them if you cannot pay all your taxes.

Q. How many years can the IRS go back to audit you?

A. Three years from the date of filing or April 15, whichever is later.

Q. Any word to students about filing?

A. Be honest at all times.

Q. What is considered fraud?

A. Beyond negligence, intentional disregard for the rules.

Q. What are life's absolutes?

A. Death, paying taxes and a bill from your C.P.A.!

Whew!, I am sure glad that's over. See you next week?

LAVC patrons choose first alumni of the month

By CHRIS MAYDA
Editor-in-Chief

After barely graduating high school, Greg Ranlett figured that a strong back and quick wit would buy him what he needed in his life. But every day as he went to work he drove in the vicinity of Valley College, and after a while he realized that he was unintentionally driving by the college but not so that he could actually see the college.

It was then that he realized, "I was guilty. I was not doing something that I needed to do for myself," Ranlett said Friday as he was honored by the LAVC patrons group as the first alumni of the month.

He decided to take one class at Valley in 1982. In 1985 he graduated with an AA degree. "The important thing is if you have a dream this (Valley) is a wonderful place to live the dream," he said.

"Many of us are labeled in society with unfair labels," he continued, "I was labeled as a trouble maker, a bad boy, but you can change your life."

"Now you are a miracle worker," his wife added.

Ranlett's early life was marred with strain due to his fathers untimely death and stress between Ranlett and his mother. He took to the street, became involved with drugs and alcohol and came against the legal system.

But it was the eventual understanding of his early life that enabled him to pursue the clinical

psychology doctorate he pursues today. He plans to graduate with a PhD from the San Diego school of Psychology in May of 1993. "The degree of suffering I had in my earlier life made me empathize with the human side," said Ranlett.

Early studies in math with teachers as Greg Lane, who has taught at LAVC since 1964, lead him to think that science and its rational side enthralled him. "I got so angry at you sometimes," Ranlett said to Lane, "But the funny thing was, the more you pushed me the more I learned."

Lane said in reply, "Don't ever forget that your teacher is your friend." He then added, "You know when someone wants to get an education, because 75 percent of the people you find in your office are the A students."

"I just remember when you told me one day that I was really a good student," said Ranlett. Lane shrugged it off but Ranlett added, "No, you see, I really needed to hear that."

Before going on to his busy day Ranlett reflected and wanted to give a word to current students. "I remember a story about Winston Churchill during the bombing of England in 1940. Those were very dark days for England. Hitler looked invincible. England stood alone."

But Churchill had such courage that he turned to one of his aides and said that regardless how much they attacked him, he would never give up." Ranlett then concluded with, "If you give up, even against overwhelming odds, you are effectively cheating yourself. Refuse to give up."



UZI ASHKENAZI / Valley Star

Billy Reed from the district office is greeting Gregory Ranlett for his achievements. Next to Ranlett is his younger sister, Beth.

Radioactive dump site threatens SoCal water supply

By Jordan Moore
Staff Writer

The state of California has commissioned a privately owned waste management company, US Ecology, to build and operate a radioactive waste dump in Ward Valley, 18 miles west of Needles. The site is 13 miles from the Colorado River, which is a source of drinking water for the Los Angeles Basin, San Diego, San Bernardino, Phoenix and Tucson.

So far, 18 states have indicated they would like to dispose of their radioactive waste in this dump. According to Scott Palmer, director of Economic Development for Needles, US Ecology has no insurance, because they can't get any, so if and when this toxic waste leaks, California taxpayers will be legally and financially responsible. The disturbing thing is, it only gets worse.

Accused by a member of Greenpeace that his company seeks to handle this radioactive waste in an unethical, immoral fashion, William Pratcher, president of American Ecology, US Ecology's parent company, replied, "Apparently we have a different notion of ethics, we have a different notion about morality." Apparently. The facts are shocking, and what makes it all the more incredible is that the facts were revealed by US Ecology. The state allowed the company to write the Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR) which casually mentions that the proposed dump site is 645 feet above a "pristine" underground lake one-tenth the size of Lake Tahoe which runs into the Colorado River. There are sixteen to eighteen million acre-feet of water beneath Ward Valley. According to Sherry Meddick, Southern California Campaign Director for Greenpeace, in the next basin over, 1 million gallons of water are pumped out of the ground every day for agriculture. Not only do the people of Needles get their water from here, but, according to Meddick, so do approximately 15 million people in the Southwestern United States.

We cannot afford the potential poisoning of this much water. "The last time I heard, there was a drought in California," says Palmer.

Even more shocking given the frighteningly close proximity to so much water are US Ecology's admissions of potential disaster. The EIS/EIR states rather bluntly, "there is a distinct possibility of leakage." This is not surprising considering that the barrels which are to hold the radioactive waste will disintegrate in 50 years while some of the waste has a half life (how long it

will be dangerous) of 4.5 billion years. Asked about this, William Pratcher, president of American Ecology, US Ecology's parent company, replies, "I don't know how you define leak." What is most disturbing is that US Ecology knowingly put forth this plan, completely aware of the risks, and the State of California not only tolerates it, but approves of it.

In 30 years, the dump will be closed, US Ecology will move on to another "pristine" area to irrevocably pollute, and the state will take charge of moni-

waste. Pratcher replies, "The question is, in what quantities and what concentration?" Of course, there is no safe level of radioactive exposure, certainly not at the levels present at any dump.

"Do you want to know the stupidest thing about this whole thing?" continues Palmer, "why are we even talking about this? There's an alternative site in the Salar Valley, outside of Baker."

According to Palmer, US Ecology also did an EIS/EIR near Baker, Calif. and found almost no water. According

stealing and selling radioactive tools and equipment used at the dump. "The company had to go around town with geiger counters checking everywhere to find stolen equipment," says Meddick. "I think the money earned from selling the stolen radioactive cement mixer went toward building the new police station and part of the public library," quips Palmer. Pratcher dismisses these charges, saying, "That all happened fifteen or twenty years ago, it's old news." The fact is, it happened. Even if we were to want this dump in our area, is US Ecology the company we want in charge? Worse, radioactive materials were illegally buried off the Beatty site in drums, according to Meddick. High levels of tritium, a radionuclide, were found in the ground water. Asked how this happened, Pratcher replies, "Nobody knows," and refers to the incident as "an aberration." (Interestingly, "aberration" was the word used by Police Chief Darryl Gates to describe the Rodney King beating.) What is more sad and disturbing, though, is what has become of this town and what it could mean to Needles if they get a dump. "The only things in Beatty now are US Ecology, houses of prostitution and bars," says Butler, quietly. After all, who would want to live next to a radioactive waste dump?

According to both Meddick and Palmer, US Ecology abandoned its plant in Illinois after leaks were detected, only to be stopped by a court order and sued for \$96 million (the suit has been in litigation for eight years). The company was unable to get a permit in North Carolina because the state found their facilities not to have "been operated in accordance with sound waste management practices nor in substantial compliance with federal and state laws and regulations."

When the state first proposed the dump, four companies, including US Ecology, bid on the project. After examining each proposal, judging such aspects of the companies as past records and safety, US Ecology was found to be the least qualified.

Westinghouse, the waste disposal group which ranked the highest (the company operates seven dumps, none of which leak), was deemed too expensive. The company which ranked second went out of business and the third had too long a criminal record (involving racketeering, price fixing, extortion, etc.) to be considered.

US Ecology, serious flaws and all, was chosen to build and operate the dump. "The company has a terrible history," remarks Meddick, "but this is

how the nuclear waste industry does business. US Ecology has tremendous flaws and what we know now is ten times worse than what we knew a year ago."

US Ecology's past record is so bad they cannot get insurance, according to Palmer. "They say they're 'self-insured,'" he says, "but if there's a leak, and they've pretty much admitted that there will be, there is no way they'll be able to afford the clean-up. They'll go bankrupt and the taxpayers of California will foot the bill."

When confronted with his company's gangrenous record, Pratcher asks, "Is there one claim ever been brought involving damages done to the individ-

"After all, who would want to live next to a radioactive waste dump?"

ual?" Probably not, but the question is irrelevant; few people develop cancer in a year or two. Most people become sick many years later, when they may not even realize it was the friendly company next door that killed them.

In spite of the facts, Pratcher insists on the value of his company's work. "Nobody appreciates this, but we're trying to do this job right. I respect everybody's opinion, that you don't want it (the dump) done. I accept that. But I want everybody to know we're trying to do this job right and we've got good people trying to do it right."

"None of you are in the waste business," Pratcher continues, "and yet everyone can produce the waste. Somebody's got to handle it." Have you produced any uranium lately?

Pratcher's only argument tells us that it is better to have all the radioactive waste buried in one place than to have it scattered about in various laboratories. "Would you rather have the waste in the basement of UCLA, exposing people?" The rationale is ludicrous because the waste is not going to be properly handled in Ward Valley. No, I'd rather not have radioactive waste in the basement of UCLA. I'd rather that this stuff weren't produced in the first place. However, if the radioactive waste exists, let's have it properly stored. The facts show US Ecology to be incapable of doing a good job.

Of course, judging by the name of the company, one might think the toxic

waste to be in the most reliable of hands. Surely, with a name like US Ecology, a concern for the environment would be paramount. "That's Green wash," retorts Meddick, "They'll call themselves anything to be more palatable. When US Ecology first arrived in Needles, everyone saw their red, white and blue logo and thought they were with the government and said, 'Oh, great! This should be fairly safe!'" "I think they've changed their name about 10 times," says Palmer.

The reaction to this disregard for health, safety and the environment has been angry. Most who learn of the proposed dump and the illogic involved is disgusted. "This kind of cavalier attitude about a known carcinogen is unconscionable," says Meddick.

Palmer says, "What this really is about is a bunch of businessmen trying to figure out where to dump their garbage." As the EIS/EIR states, nearly all the toxic waste that the dump is being designed to hold is industrial waste. "The real thrust of this thing is the liability transfer," says Butler. "It lets the nuclear power generators off the hook and once there's a spill we have to pay for what is essentially their mess. They try to sell this off as medical waste, but its mostly nuclear reactor waste."

The only hope to halt the completion of this debacle is to convince the state to reconsider; to show the governor that allowing US Ecology to do this to Southern California is totally uncalled for. "We're hoping [Gov.] Pete Wilson

"We're in this business to make money."

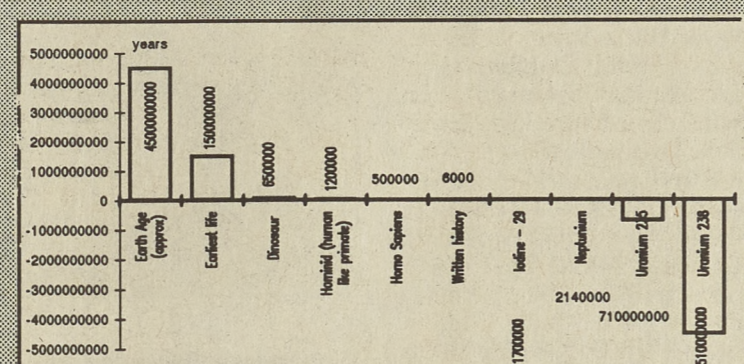
will realize this is not a good deal for California or the next generation and he'll call a moratorium on nuclear waste," says Meddick.

The crux of the issue is this: toxic waste shouldn't even be produced; it's completely unnecessary. Only 2 percent of the volume of waste that will make up the contents of the barrels will be medical, and none of this is radioactive. According to Meddick, Much of the deadly content, the uranium and plutonium for example, are the products of military research. Do we really need better missiles? Is it worth sacrificing our health and well being, as well as the safety of all living things in the Southwestern United States and Mexico for the next 4.5 billion years, in order to perfect a more efficient killing machine?

Please see TOXIC on page 4

Radioactive half life vs. real life

Half life is the period of time for disintegration of radioactive substances. It is toxic until this time.



Graphs: Oak Ridge

toring the dump. For 70 years, the state is going to monitor toxic waste, some of which has a half life of 4.5 billion years. "This is so patently absurd it's incredible," says Meddick.

The plan is to bury the barrels of toxic waste in unlined trenches, covering it all up with 10 feet of dirt. Of course, how much dirt is covering the waste is irrelevant because, as US Ecology itself stated, the waste will eventually seep down into the ground water. "The EIS they wrote admits there's water movement from the underground lake to the Colorado river," says Charles Butler, citizen of Needles and head of People Against Radioactive Dumps (PARD). "It won't leak into town," says Palmer, "but it will leak into the river." The fact is, radioactive isotopes cannot be isolated. Even William Pratcher will admit the material simply does not stay in one place.

US Ecology is not required to get what is known as a Zero Discharge Permit from the Regional Water Quality Board. Why? When asked this very thing, Pratcher responded, "I can't address that question." Perhaps he finds himself unable to answer because there is no such thing as isolated radioactive

to Palmer, the valley is a closed basin, meaning no water runs in or out, while Ward Valley, where US Ecology decided to build the dump, is an open basin.

Why would the company choose Ward over Silurian Valley, even though the latter would be much safer? "They would have had to dig their trenches 20 feet deeper," says Palmer, "which would have cost them more money." This is capitalism at its meanest and ugliest, and it gets very mean and ugly.

US Ecology, the nuclear waste dump contractor that will build and operate the proposed dump, has a history so plagued with scandal and mishap it rightfully should be out of business. Of the five dumps the company has built across the United States, four have been permanently closed because of leakage, essentially ruining the surrounding areas, and the fifth has to be closed two months out of every year due to leakage.

This site, in Beatty, Nevada, has become something of a joke to anyone aware of what happened there. Workers at the plant were found to be

Sports

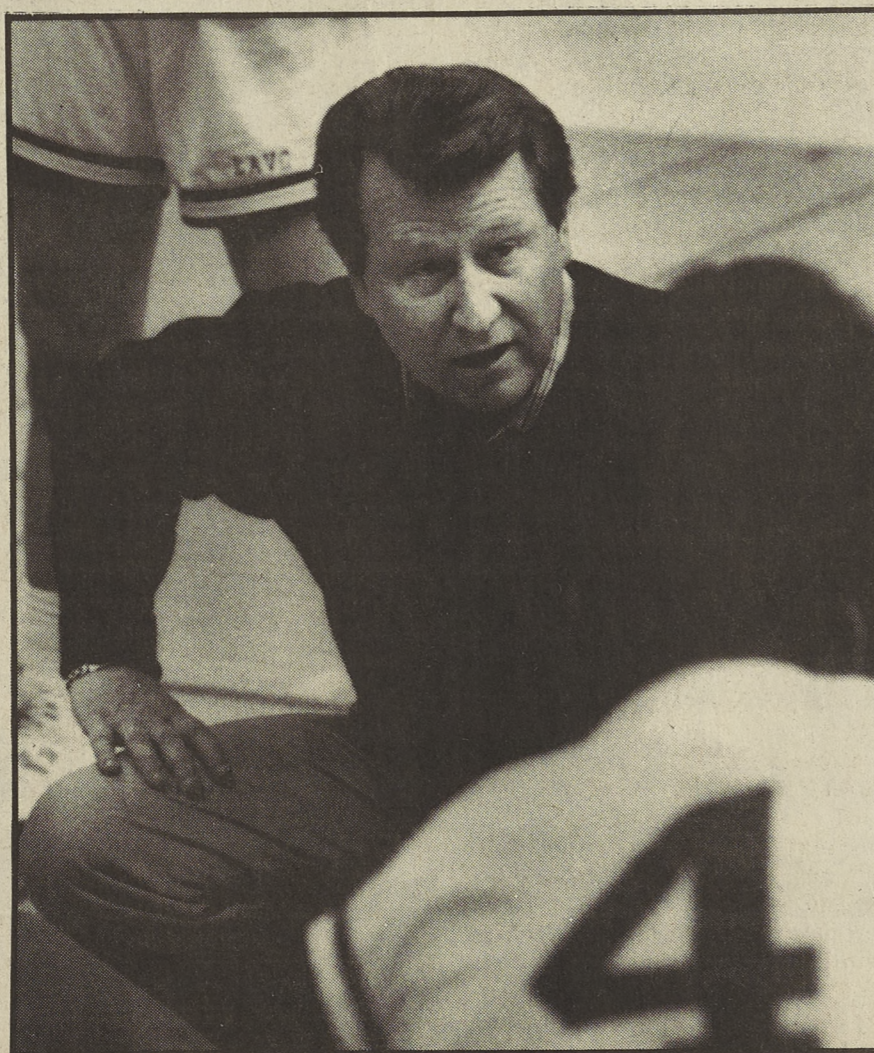
Coach of the year: Doug Michelson

By STEVE DUNLAP
Staff Writer

Even though the Lady Monarchs basketball team were eliminated in the Regional finals by Harbor. Head Coach Doug Michelson clinched the "State Coach of the year award" with a five year record of 147-25.

Michelson started coaching at LAVC in '88 and took the team to the team to the playoffs, with only seven players "If we had nine to ten players we could've won the state," said Michelson. "At the beginning of my second year and my roster grew from seven to 12-13 players and I was a bit surprised." Michelson came to LAVC with many credentials, coached for men's basketball for seven years at Hart high school, two years at Pierce and 12 years at Poly technical. "This is the first time I have coached a womens basketball team and the transition has been somewhat smooth but it has had it's share of bumps."

"Their are three things that keep me involve in my coaching: Enjoys involvement with the athletes, noticing a disability and working with an athlete to eliminate the disability and also thrives on the competitiveness of the players," said Michelson, as he rocked back his chair, look upwards as remembering those fine moments.



NANCY VIGRAN/Valley Star

Women's basketball coach, Doug Michelson, planning strategy with the team during a recent home game.

Success is a very critical point to Michelson as he stresses three major goals "Obtaining an AA degree and transferring to a University, win an conference championship (he has accomplish every year) and each player to play to there optimum and maximum effort."

Over the five years spent at LAVC, Michelson has produced some talented women that have taken their capabilities one step higher. Listed below are players that have continued to higher divisional schools.

CSUN
Ruth Aguilar
Kristine Rumbola
Shaggaro Lattin
Roz Linton

Cal Poly Pomona
Sylvia Castaneda

Missouri Western
Ericka Miller

Colorado State
Dametra Johnson
Bernadette Tillis

Long Beach State
Tisa Rush

Sonoma State
Laura Kirkpatrick

Cal-State San Bernardino
Sandrine Rocher

SPORTS SCOREBOARD

Baseball

3/12	Ventura	13	Valley	9
3/13	Valley	6	Canyons	2
3/14	Oxnard	11	Valley	5

Swimming

Men's

Valley 61 Santa Monica 48

Women's

Valley 60 Santa Monica 70

CALENDAR

Baseball

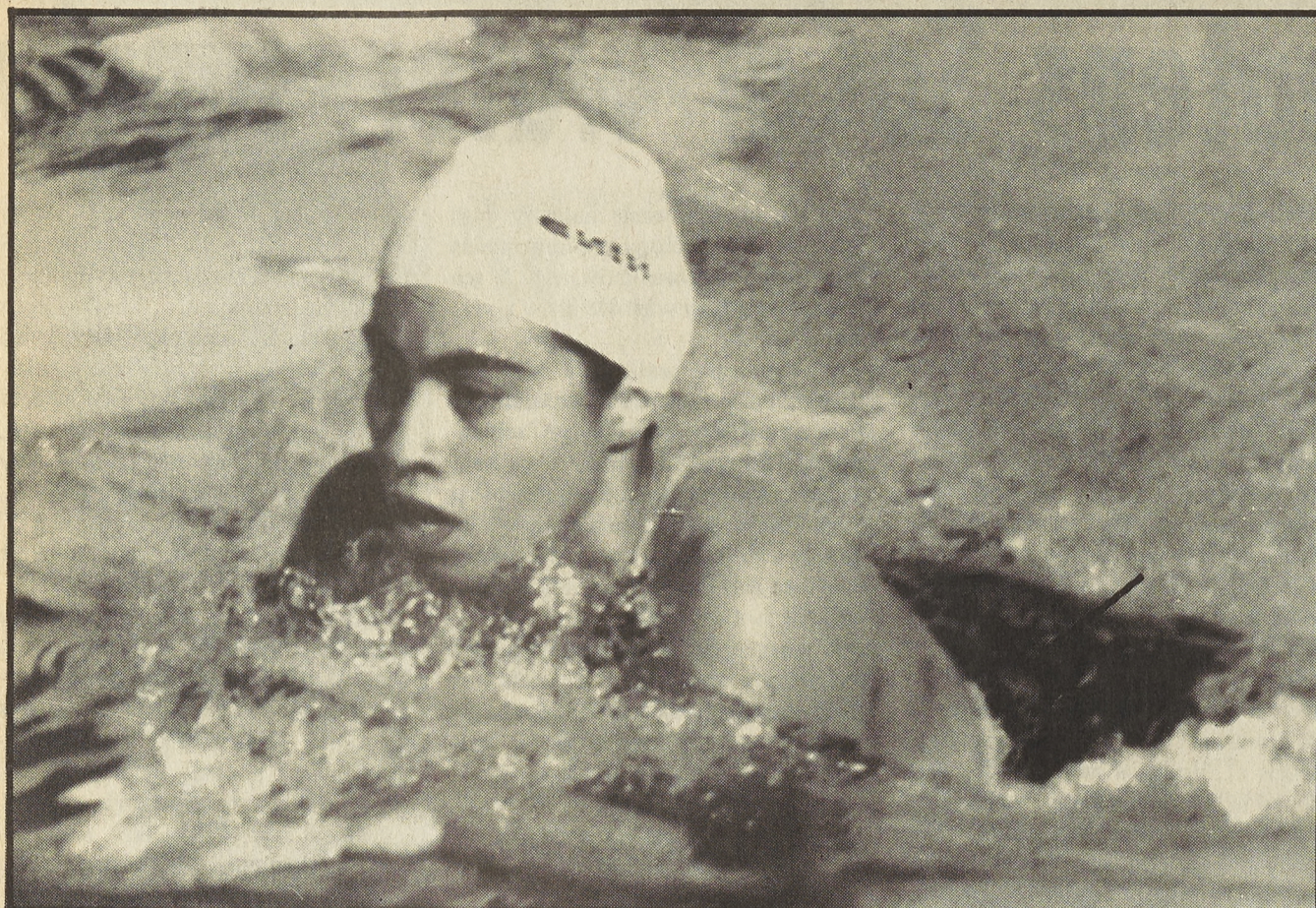
Saturday 3/21, 1 p.m. Moorpark at Valley

Tuesday 3/24, 2 p.m. Cuesta at Valley

Thursday 3/26, 2 p.m. Santa Barbara at S.B.

SWIMMING

Friday 3/20 vs. Pasadena at Pasadena 2:30 p.m.



Luzmila Ocon competes for LAVC swim team.

BRIAN PRICE/Valley Star

8 years later, swimmers douse Santa Monica

By ANDY FISHMAN
Staff Writer

The last time the Valley men swimmers defeated Santa Monica, Ronald Reagan was president and the Olympic Games were to be held in Los Angeles. That was the scenario going in to Fridays swim meet here at Valley.

The streak was finally broken after eight years, when the Monarch men swimmers defeated Santa Monica 61-48, to get a much needed conference win and even their record at two and two.

Wonmeen Jun once again had a marvelous day winning two races and leading off the 400 yard medley relay win. Even though his times in both the 200 individual medley (2:12.8) and the 200 backstroke (2:13.7) were a little down from his old times, he still managed to win

those races. The other racers in the 400 medley (3:56.8) were Edward Akopyan, Dave Hendrie and Sergio Coronado.

Robert Brown also turned in a noteworthy performance, also winning two races, the 50 and 100 yard freestyle. His times in those races were 23 flat and 51.2 seconds.

Other winners on the mens side were Ryan Barry in the 200 freestyle (1:53.7) and Edward Akopyan in the 200 butterfly (2:12.5). The men also won the 400 free relay were Brown, Steve Costales, Steve Mitchell and Barry.

On the other side of the coin the lady Monarch swimmers did not fare as well. But, even though they were beaten 70-60 at the hands of S.M., they really showed strong signs of improvement. They are swimming alot better than their 1-3 conference record would indicate.

Hannah Smits-Van-Oyen was the ladies star Friday winning three races while setting new times in each event. Smits- Van-Oyen won the 100 (59.1), 200 (2:05.8) and 500 (5:46.2) yard freestyle races, in remarkable time and shows no sign of slowing down.

Lacey Weaver continued with her winning ways placing first in the 50 free (28.3) and second in the 50 butterfly.

Coach Krauss also has high hopes for Michelle Sterba as she keeps improving on her breaststroke times, in both the 50 and 100, where she placed second on Friday.

Next week Valley takes on Pasadena, on their home turf. This once again promises to be an exciting meet as both the men and women vie for position in the conference.

Monarchs 'stretched,' slip to 4th

By KEVIN BOLT
Staff Writer

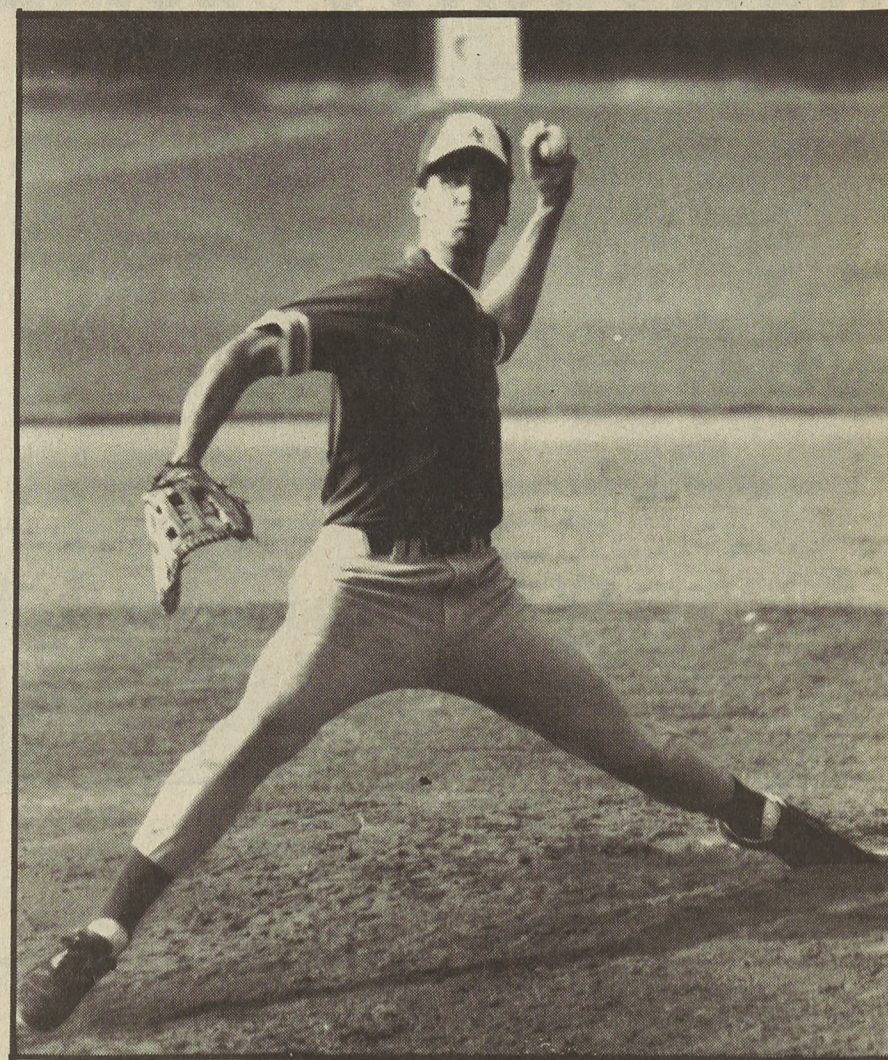
Playing in their third game in as many days, the LAVC baseball team couldn't have asked for an easier opponent in winless Oxnard (0-12). But the Monarchs (9-12) (4-4), slipped to fourth place in the Western State Conference as they were pounded 11-5 by the hapless Condors at Valley Saturday. Jake Loveridge suffered his second loss.

"Playing these make-up games (due to the rain last week) really stretches the pitching," said, Head Coach Chris Johnson. Oxnard pounded out fifteen hits to earn their first win of the year. The Monarchs will try to avoid falling into fifth place this Saturday as they host Moorpark (3-4).

Valley faired much better in a make-up game Friday at College of the Canyons, as they beat the Cougars 6-2, behind strong pitching from winning pitcher Colin Bode and reliever Willie Rivera. The two combined to 6-hit Canyons (3-3). Monarch second baseman Mike Murray led the offense with his second homer of the year.

In the first game of the three game stretch, Valley traveled to Ventura and despite giving up only five hits, lost 13-9. Fifteen walks were issued by Monarchs pitchers, including eventual loser, Manny Fernandez (3-3) who gave up six in the first inning. "I was actually encouraged because we got thirteen hits and only made one error. If we threw the ball over the plate, we would have had another victory," Johnson said.

Glendale was no match for Monarch hurler Jake Loveridge last Tuesday here at Valley, as he posted his first conference win, a 9-2 decision. Loveridge, after giving up a two-run dinger to Vagueros centerfielder John Horan, completely shut down and dominated Glendale hitters, allowing only one hit over the next seven innings, while striking out seven. "I felt pretty good out there. I was throwing strikes and I had to keep throwing the same pitches even though we had all those



DONALD SAUSEN / Valley Star

Pitcher Jake Loveridge after leaving the game against Oxnard last Saturday.

runs", Loveridge said. "It was excellent. He did a great job, and didn't let the negative affects like the two-run homer get to him. He kept going and stayed focused," Johnson said.

Mike Engler, who continues to be a force in the closer role, retired the side in order in the top of the ninth to preserve the win for Loveridge. "He's done great. I just want to get to the end of the game with us winning so we can go to him," Johnson revealed about his stopper.

Six foot, six inch Glendale pitcher Mike McMullen did no intimidating

on this day; as the Monarchs clubbed him for six earned runs, and batted around in the sixth inning. Monarch backstop Kevin Walsh was 2-4 with 2 RBI, and leftfielder Sean Lewis also contributed with two singles, 2 RBI and a stolen base.

First place Pierce (16-1) (7-0) continued their domination of the WSC with a 10-4 rout over Valley at Pierce last Monday. Brahmas starter Chris Brown (4-0) struck out six Monarch batters over eight innings, while scattering nine hits. All the offense Pierce needed was provided by Brian Smith who had a homer, double, and five RBI. Valley reliever Willie Rivera took the loss.

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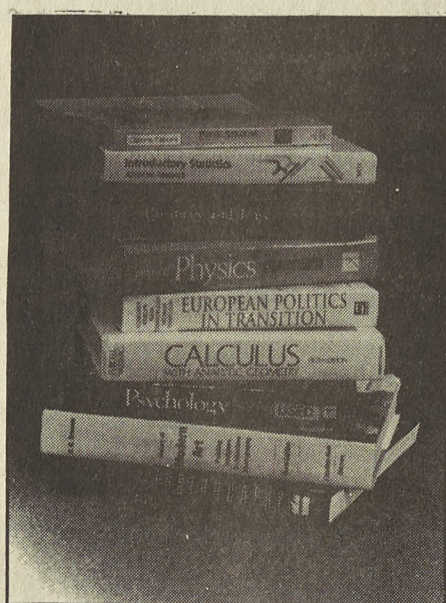
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